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Swamp 1

1st visit site description

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The land has lots of gravel before you come near the swamp itself. Before you reach the actual swamp there is a large mass of dead leaves and lots of branches before you get to the actual water, and it is teeming with leaves and algae and logs and branches. There are small "islands" of soil made from organic matter. It may have started from dead trees decomposing. Then moss and algae may have grown on top. The islands themselves are covered in fallen leaves and trees are growing in them. There is a large amount of mud coming down into the swamp. The main source of water at our site is the mass of water in the swamp itself. There are many trees growing straight in the "islands". There are fallen logs and dead leaves everywhere. There does not seem to be any erosion, because the swamp water does not move or really interact with the surrounding soil. However there is a fair amount of mud between the dry land and the

swamp. The weather is very cold outside right now, and there is defiantly some wind. It's not very wet, quite cloudy, and not very sunny, especially with trees in the way. The ground is absolutely covered dead leaves, on top of soil. The soil is moderately moist and is dark brown. There is a musty soil smell about the swamp. Birds can be heard chirping. It is around morning, and chickadees can be heard through the forest. Not many animals can be seen, but it may just be because of the fact that it is still cold, so some may come out when the weather is nicer. The only evidence available of animals is the sound of the birds in the forest for now, since it is a cold winter morning. Not many insects can be observed. In terms of vegetation here are mostly deciduous trees, like maple and oak, but the leaves are fallen so it is difficult to tell. There are no grasses. There is algae on the water, lots of it, and moss on the rocks. There is a great abundance of trees. Not many decomposers are visible right now. Humans have impacted the area by making trails and a bridge over the swamp, and we are impacting the surroundings of the swamp by walking on the soil.